

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for translating instant messages exchanged between two or more devices over a network by one or more users that communicate in different languages, the method comprising:

establishing a user profile indicating at least one user language and one or more translation preferences of the one or more users;

receiving a message as input composed by at least one of the users according to the user language;

translating the message from the user language to at least one different language corresponding to the one or more translation preferences at the two or more devices; and

transmitting the translated message ~~in translated form~~ to at least one of the two or more devices.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of establishing includes exchanging a user profile created by the one or more users between the two or more devices.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the step of exchanging includes storing information associated with the user profile by each of the two or more devices.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the information includes the one or more translation preferences.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving includes inputting the message into a real-time communication service residing on the two or more devices.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving further includes sending a request to a content translation module to translate the message from the user language to at least one different language.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the content translation module is located at a network address corresponding to the one or more translation preferences.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the network address is shared amongst a plurality of devices operating in a distributed networking environment.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the network address corresponds to a single device.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of transmitting includes sending the message composed in at least one different language to one or more destination addresses.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the destination addresses correspond to the one or more translation preferences.

12. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 1.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for providing real-time communication over a network between two or more devices to support multiple languages, the system comprising:

at least one source device coupled to the network for transmitting a message composed according to a source language;

a content translation module located in the at least one source device having instructions for translating the message into a destination language; and  
at least one destination device coupled to the network for receiving the translated message from the content translation module.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the at least one source device further comprises: a real-time communication service for receiving a message as input composed according to the source language, the message being composed by a user of the source device.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the at least one source device transmits a user profile to the at least one destination device.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the user profile indicates the source language and one or more translation preferences.

17. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the content translation module is located at a network address corresponding to the one or more translation preferences.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein the network address is shared amongst a plurality of devices operating in a distributed networking environment.

19. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein the network address corresponds to a single device.

20. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the content translation module resides on the at least one source device.

21. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the content translation module resides on the at least one destination device.

22. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the at least one destination device further comprises: a real-time communication service for receiving a message as input composed according to the destination language, the message being composed by a user of the destination device.

23. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the at least one destination device is located at a network address corresponding to the one or more translation preferences.

24. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the at least one destination device transmits a user profile to the at least one source device.

25. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the user profile indicates the destination language and one or more translation preferences.

26-36. (Canceled)

37. (New) A method for translating instant messages exchanged between a first user using a first device and a second user using a second device over a communication network, the method comprising:

- receiving designation information from the first user for a first preferred language;
- exchanging the designation information with the second device by sending the first preferred language to and receiving a second preferred language from the second device, wherein the second preferred language is designated by the second user and is different from the first preferred language;
- receiving a first message as input composed by the first user in the first preferred language;

translating the received first message in the first preferred language into a second message in the second preferred language in the first device; and transmitting the second message in the second preferred language to the second device via the communication network.

38. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein the step of exchanging the designation information includes storing the exchanged designation information in the first and second devices.

39. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein the designation information includes one or more translation preferences.

40. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein the step of receiving a first message includes inputting the first message into a real-time communication service residing on the first device.

41. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein the step of receiving a first message further includes sending a request to a content translation module to translate the first message from the first preferred language to the second preferred language.

42. (New) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 37.

43. (New) A system for providing real-time communication over a network between first and second users, the system comprising:

a first device having a first user interface for receiving designation information from the first user for a first preferred user language and for receiving a first message as input composed by the first user in the first preferred language;

a second device having a second user interface for receiving designation information from the second user for a second preferred language;  
a server for exchanging the designation information of the first and second preferred user languages between the first and second devices;  
wherein the first device further includes a content translation module for translating the received first message in the first preferred language into a second message in the second preferred language in the first device.

44. (New) The system of claim 43, wherein the content translation module is a first content translation module, and wherein the second device further comprising a second content translation module for translating a received message in the second preferred language into a message in the first preferred language.

45. (New) The system of claim 43, wherein the server also transmits the translated second message in the second language to the second device.

46. (New) The system of claim 45, wherein the second user interface displays the received second message in the second language to the second user.

47. (New) A device having capability to send and receive instant messages, the device comprising:

a user interface for accepting a user language preference and instant message input data in a first human-readable language;  
an instant messaging application operatively coupled to the user interface for exchanging instant messages with a second device;  
a translation module operatively coupled to the instant messaging application that translates the instant message input data into a second human-readable language, the second human-readable language being different from the first human-readable language; and

a storage operatively coupled to the user interface for storing the user language preference from the user interface and a translation preference received from the second device;

wherein the instant messaging application accepts the instant message input data and the translation module translates the instant message input data from the first human readable language into the second human readable language according to the translation preference received from the second device.